THEIR

THEY’RE

THERE

**Correct or incorrect?**

1. The birds said that **their** very upset with the cats. (Correct / Incorrect)
2. The drinks are over **there.** (Correct / Incorrect)
3. I like Europe, but I don’t want to live **they’re.** (Correct / Incorrect)
4. They should really make up **there** mind. (Correct / Incorrect)
5. Do you think **they’re** going to accept this offer? (Correct / Incorrect)
6. **Their** are two reasons by this is a bad idea. (Correct / Incorrect)
7. The company raised **their** investments by 10%. (Correct / Incorrect)
8. I know **they’re** considering buying the car. (Correct / Incorrect)
9. **There** is no reason for me to cry about this. (Correct / Incorrect)
10. The students just finished **they’re** homework. (Correct / Incorrect)

**Fill in the blanks.**

1. “Where are Phil and Jill?” \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ over there.
2. They’ve forgotten \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ snacks.
3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ are no cookies in this jar.
4. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ are a few things I need to talk to you about.
5. She met them before but she forgot \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ names.
6. I believe \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ from France.
7. Look at the smiles on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ faces.
8. I think \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ coming.
9. I doubt \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ going to come.
10. From the look on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ faces, they’re very angry.

**Their, They’re, There Grammar Mini-lesson Michael Kim**

**Definition (also with Common Errors and Corrections)**

A) Their: the possessive of “they,” used as an adjective before a noun

(e.g. They have **their** books, I have mine.)

B) They’re: contraction of “they are”

(e.g. I’m taking the elevator, **they’re** taking the stairs.)

C) There: a point in time or place; a word used with the verb to be

(e.g. He paused **there** for effect. TIME)

(e.g. She did not want to go **there**. PLACE)

(e.g. **There** was no hope.)

**Grade Level Targeted**

This lesson is good for **grade 9 students in all streams**, because it will be a foundation for correct usage of the three words in the future. As it is with all confusions arising from homophones, this lesson on “their, they’re, and there” should be given to students as soon as possible.

**Activity**

1. Prepare paper slips that have one of the three “their, they’re, their” words on it
2. Distribute a paper slip to each student, instructing them not to show or share their word with each other
3. Without spelling their word, or showing the slips, the students must successfully find others that have the same word (they can do this using their words in sentences, or describing the correct grammatical definitions)
4. The first group to find everyone with the same word wins the activity!

**Resources**

“Their.” Oxford English Dictionary. OED Online. Oxford University Press. 14 January 2012. <http://dictionary.oed.com/>

“They’re.” Oxford English Dictionary. OED Online. Oxford University Press. 14 January 2012. <http://dictionary.oed.com/>

“There.” Oxford English Dictionary. OED Online. Oxford University Press. 14 January 2012. <http://dictionary.oed.com/>